

U.S. Army Recruiting Command

1307 Third Avenue, Fort Knox, Kentucky 40121

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Contact: Douglas Smith
S.Douglas.Smith@usarec.army.mil
(502) 626-0164/0172

Recruiting Command signs State of Wisconsin as 89th PaYS partner

FORT KNOX, Ky. – This month the U.S. Army Recruiting Command signed its first state partner in the Partnership for Youth Success program. The State of Wisconsin joined more than 80 PaYS partners that provide youth with quality job opportunities following their Army enlistment.

Brig. Gen. John F. Shortal, USAREC deputy commander, and Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle signed the partnership agreement during a formal ceremony Nov. 10 at the state capitol.

“We are committed to helping our Soldiers achieve a lifetime of success, and working with partners like [the State of Wisconsin] gets us further toward that goal,” Shortal said. “The Army benefits, Wisconsin benefits, and most importantly, our Soldiers benefit.”

PaYS is a strategic partnership program between the Army and a cross section of U.S. corporations and public sector agencies created to help the Army attract, train and deploy talented young people who want to serve their country, but also want to help secure their future success once their Army service is complete.

“The PaYS program is a win-win for the state and the Army,” Doyle said. “We need to make sure our soldiers are provided with every advantage to ease the transition from active duty to civilian life. Having a good-paying job with good benefits is necessary to that transition, yet 40 percent of our soldiers are coming home to unemployment.”

The governor also proclaimed November “Hire a Veteran” month, drawing attention to the vast contributions that veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces have made and continue to make to the workforce, according to a governor’s office release.

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“Our veterans, who have risked their lives to defend our country, deserve a good job when their duty to country is complete,” Doyle said. “It is my hope that any employer, given a chance, would consider a veteran for employment.”

Under terms of the agreement between USAREC and its PaYS partners, enlistees interested in gaining specific job training and qualifications will receive that training while in the U.S. Army. As part of the enlistment process, recruits sign a statement of intent to work for a specific PaYS partner (chosen by the recruit) upon completion of their term of service. As they near the end of their enlistments, the Soldiers will have the opportunity to interview with their selected PaYS partner for a specific job at a specific location.

The PaYS enlistment option may be combined with any of the Army’s other enlistment incentives for which a recruit may be eligible, such as the Montgomery GI Bill, \$70,000 Army College Fund and cash enlistment bonuses up to \$20,000.

The Army’s list of corporate partners is growing. The State of Wisconsin is the newest of 89 partners, including Walgreen Co., BellSouth, Caterpillar, HCA, EDS, Lockheed Martin, Sears Logistics Services Inc., State Farm Insurance, John Deere Company, The Pepsi Bottling Group, Goodyear, DELL, Southwest Airlines.

“Nationwide our PaYS partners have posted more than 152,000 jobs that are available to our Soldiers,” Shortal said. “That’s an amazing number and testament to the benefit of a PaYS partnership.”

For more information, interested applicants may visit their local recruiter or log on to [www.armypays.com](http://armypays.com).

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